

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 07743 111252Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----111254Z 013754 /43

P 111139Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3742  
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL BELIZE PRIORITY

S E C R E T LONDON 07743

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, UK, GT, BH  
SUBJECT: BELIZE DISPUTE

1. IN THE COURSE OF RECENT CONVERSATIONS, SECRETARY VANCE TOLD FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN THAT PURSUANT TO THEIR EARLIER DISCUSSION OF THE BELIZE DISPUTE, HE HAD INSTRUCTED OUR EMBASSY IN GUATEMALA TO APPROACH THE GOG IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE ITS MINIMUM TERRITORIAL POSITION, AND THAT WE WOULD INFORM HMG WHEN WE HAD AN ANSWER FROM OUR EMBASSY. THE SECRETARY ALSO ASKED OWEN IF HMG THOUGHT THE OAS OR GENERAL SECRETARY ORFILA MIGHT PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE RESOLUTION OF THE DISPUTE. OWEN THANKED THE SECRETARY FOR HIS ASSISTANCE ON THE TERRITORIAL MATTER AND SAID HE WOULD CONSIDER THE OAS/ORFILA PROPOSAL AND GET BACK TO US.

2. PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY SIR MICHAEL PALLISER MAY 10 RAISED BELIZE WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN. PALLISER SAID HMG DOES NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO BRING THE OAS OR ORFILA INTO THE DISPUTE. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATIVE IF ORFILA COULD EXPRESS HIS CONCERN, OR THAT OF THE OAS, OVER THE FAILURE TO  
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RESOLVE THIS DISPUTE AND URGE THE PARTIES TO REACH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. HE REITERATED HMG'S BELIEF THAT THE STATUS QUO IS DANGEROUS AND CANNOT ENDURE. PALLISER ALSO RENEWED HMG'S EARLIER REQUEST THAT WE PRESS THE GUATEMALANS TO BE REASONABLE ON THE TERRITORIAL QUESTION AND URGE THEM TO ACCEPT A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

SPIERS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, BOUNDARY CLAIMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON07743  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2571368  
**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** BELIZE DISPUTE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UK, GT, BH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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